

Message Text

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21-12

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ARA-16 ISO-00 IO-15 L-03 FCC-03 COME-00

OTPE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 OC-06 CCO-00 NEA-10

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R 261215Z SEP 73

FM USDEL TORREMOLINOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 24

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, ITU

SUBJECT: ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE, TORREMOLINOS,
SEPTEMBER 14 - OCTOBER 26, 1973, SITREP 10.

1. COMMITTEE 4. FINANCE COMMITTEE MET SEPT 26 TO
CONSIDER PROBLEM OF ARREARAGES. IN GENERAL DEBATE, FIVE
MAJOR PROPOSALS SUBMITTED RANGING FROM VENEZUELAN DRAFT
WHICH WOULD SIMPLY FORGIVE ALL ARREARAGES, INCLUDING
PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ACCRUED PRIOR TO DEC 31,
1971, TO US PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD FORGIVE NEITHER BUT
WOULD PROVIDE FOR LONG TERM REPAYMENT. MAJOR INTEREST
CENTERED ON FRG AND CANADIAN PROPOSALS WHICH FOLLOW.
FRG PROPOSES THAT: (A) PRINCIPAL OF ALL OUTSTANDING
CONTRIBUTIONS BE RECALCULATED ON BASIS LOWEST CONTRIBUTORY
UNIT EXISTING AS TIME DEBTS INCURRED (3 UNITS 1950-1959,
1. UNIT 1960-1965 AND 1/2 UNIT 1966 TO DATE); (B) ALL
INTEREST BE WAIVED; (C) REPAYMENT TO BE MADE OVER
PERIOD OF APPROXIMATELY FIVE YEARS; AND (D) ALL
REMAINING ITU DEDTS TO BE BORNE BY MEMBERSHIP AT
LARGE (DURING DEBATE, SYG MILI ADVISED ITU HAS NO
OUTSTANDING DEBT OTHER THAN MORTGAGE ON HQ BUILDING
WHICH WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY THIS MATTER -- ALL OTHER
DEBT CAUSED BY ARREARAGES HAVING BEEN ABSORBED BY SAVINGS
IN REGULAR BUDGET). CANADIAN PROPOSAL STIPULATES (A) SAME
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AS FRG EXCEPT INTEREST ALSO TO BE RECALCULATEE; (B) NO

REPEAT NO INTEREST TO BE WAIVED; (C) FULL REPAYMENT
REQUIRED IN FIVE YEAR PERIOD; (D) PAYMENTS MUST BE
MAINTAINED ON BOTH REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS AND ARREARAGES;
IF ANY PAYMENTS MISSED, SANCTIONS (I.E. LOSS OF VOTE)
COME INTO EFFECT; AND (E) SAME AS FRG (D). BY END OF
SESSION, IT EVIDENT THAT VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL HAD NO
SUPPORT OUTSIDE LATIN AMERICAN BLOC AND YEMEN, WHICH IS
ONLY NON-LATIN DEBTOR, AND THEIR INTEREST BEGINNING TO
SHIFT TO FRG PROPOSAL. FOLLOWING COUNTRIES, BESIDES
US AND CANADA, INDICATED FIRM LINE ON ARREARAGES DURING
DEBATE: UK, AUSTRALIA, ITALY, USSR, FRANCE, UGANDA,
AND CUBA, BUT LITTLE SUPPORT EVIDENT FOR US PROPOSAL.
BY CLOSE OF DEBATE IT APPARENT THAT CHOICE WILL LIKELY
BE BETWEEN FRG PROPOSAL AND TOUGHER CANADIAN DRAFT.
UNLESS FURTHER SUPPORT FOR US PROPOSAL CAN BE GENERATED BY
NEXT MEETING, USDEL INTENDS TO SUPPORT CANADIAN PROPOSAL.

2. FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS AT NEXT SESSION WILL BE
DISCUSSION OF NICARAGUAN REQUEST TO WAIVE CONTRIBUTION
FOR 1973 BECAUSE OF ECONOMIC DISLOCATION CAUSED BY
DECEMBER 1972 EARTHQUAKE THERE. BEAM

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